



## City of Gaithersburg Press Release

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### For Immediate Release

### Create Holiday Memories, Gift Greener with Seasonal Festivities in Gaithersburg

**Gaithersburg, MD (November 8, 2019)** Celebrate the holiday season with the City of Gaithersburg. From visits with Santa and a traditional tree lighting to theatrical performances and a dazzling Winter Lights Festival, there's plenty of holiday fun for all ages.

These events and programs also make great holiday gift experiences for your friends and family and are part of the City of Gaithersburg's efforts to support local merchants by encouraging people to buy local. It also supports the City's participation in "[Gift Outside the Box](#)," an initiative of the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection to encourage residents to reduce waste and think differently about holiday shopping and gifting by buying local, gifting experiences rather than material items, gifting greener, giving back to the community, and exploring how to reduce, reuse and recycle right.

For more information, explore the [Holiday Festivities calendar](#) on the City's website at [www.gaithersburgmd.gov](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov).

### *Classes & Workshops*

#### **Turkey Burn Off**

**Nov. 30, 9 – 10:30 a.m.**

**Activity Center, 510 S. Frederick Avenue**

Burn off those Thanksgiving calories with a free Cardio Dance Fitness class. This fun and energizing drop-in class is open to all ages. You'll experience an hour and a half of body-energizing, stress-relieving fun.

#### **Let's Cook@Casey: Parisian Holiday Sweets**

**Dec. 4, 7 p.m.**

**Casey Community Center, 810 South Frederick Avenue**

Turn your home kitchen into a Parisian patisserie with classic French confections that are perfect for holiday gifting. Students will use professional techniques and premium ingredients to create three elegant make-ahead treats: Chouquettes, dainty pastry puffs with crisp pearl sugar; Mendiants, the sophisticated French cousin of American chocolate bark; and Truffles de la Maison, dark chocolate truffles customized with a variety of delicious toppings.

Registration cost is \$55. Register [online](#).

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## **2 – 2 – 2/Holiday Happenings**

### **Family Workshop: Snowflakes & Icicles**

**Dec. 7, 1:30 – 3 p.m.**

**Arts Barn, 311 Kent Square Road**

Learn easy and fun techniques for making GIANT paper snowflakes and icicles. Everything you need to create beautiful winter decorations for your home will be provided. This is a perfect activity that both kids and adults can enjoy doing together. Registration cost is \$23. Register [online](#).

### **Family Workshop: 'Tis Better to Give**

**Dec. 8, 1 – 2 p.m.**

**Arts Barn, 311 Kent Square Road**

Create holiday projects that can be given as gifts with your family. All supplies will be provided. Registration is \$15. Parent/guardian attends free with child. Register [online](#).

### **Art Night Out: Ornaments**

**Dec. 14, 7 – 9:30 p.m.**

**Arts Barn, 311 Kent Square Road**

Get together with friends for an evening of ornament making, just in time for the holidays. All experience levels are welcome; all supplies will be provided. Sign up with a friend to each receive a \$5 discount. Wine, beer, soda and snacks are available for purchase. Registration is \$40. Register [online](#).

### **GLOW Zumba Solstice Party**

**Dec. 18, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Activity Center, 510 S. Frederick Avenue**

As the nights get longer we bring you the ultimate Zumba extravaganza. Not only will you experience the exhilaration of moving your body to the rhythm of the music, you'll glow in the dark! Wear neon fitness attire to maximize your dazzle. Admission is free.

## ***Performances***

### ***The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* in partnership with Kensington Arts Theatre**

**Nov. 29 – Dec. 15, Fri. & Sat. at 7:30 p.m.; Sat. & Sun. at 2 p.m.**

**(no evening performance December 14)**

**Arts Barn, 311 Kent Square Road**

In this hilarious Christmas classic, by Barbara Robinson., a couple struggling to put on a church Christmas pageant is faced with casting the Herdmen kids – probably the most inventively awful kids in history. You won't believe the mayhem – and the fun – when the Herdmens collide with the Christmas story head on. This delightful comedy is adapted from the best-selling Young Adult book and has become a holiday staple. Admission is \$20, \$18 for students ages 15 – 21, and \$12 for youth 14 and under. Student ID required. This show is recommended for ages 8 and older. Purchase tickets [online](#).

### **Gaithersburg Chorus Winter Concert: "Make a Joyful Noise"**

**Dec. 3 - Rosborough Theatre at Asbury Methodist Village, 301 Odendhal Avenue**

**Dec. 6 - Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church, 610 S. Frederick Avenue**

**7:30 p.m.**

Join Music Director Daniel Hopkins and accompanist Refiye Tappan as the Gaithersburg Chorus performs holiday music, including "Patapan," "The Angels' Carol," "Blue Skies," and a commissioned piece, "Let Us Be Merry." Admission is free; donations are gratefully accepted. All ages welcome.

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### **3 – 3 – 3/Holiday Happenings**

#### **Cool Yule with Rochelle Rice**

**Dec. 14, 8 p.m.**

**Arts Barn, 311 Kent Square Road**

Join award-winning singer and songwriter Rochelle Rice for an evening of familiar holiday classics through a new musical lens. Inspired by the spirit of the great songwriters of the 70s and guided by her study of jazz and Black American Music, Rice's sound is a woven tapestry of jazz-inspired pop and soul. Admission is \$25. \$18 for students 18 and under. Student ID required. Purchase tickets [online](#).

#### **Holidays in Black & White**

**Dec. 21, Noon & 2 p.m.**

**Arts Barn, 311 Kent Square Road**

Traditional holiday music is combined with new works as the American Pops Orchestra provides accompaniment to silent holiday film classics produced by Thomas Edison Studios, such as “The Night Before Christmas,” “A Christmas Carol,” and others. Tickets are \$15 (advance), \$18 (day of performance), and \$12 for youth ages 10 and under. Purchase tickets [online](#).

#### ***Special Events & Activities***

#### **Winter Lights Festival**

**Nov. 29 – Dec. 31, Sun. - Thurs. 6 -9 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. 6 - 10 p.m.**

**(Closed Dec. 25)**

**Seneca Creek State Park, 11950 Clopper Rd.**

The [3.5 mile drive](#) through the enchanted woodland setting of Seneca Creek State Park takes you past more than 450 illuminated displays and beautifully lit park trees that brighten the night. Advance online admission is \$12 per car Monday through Thursday and \$17 per car Friday through Sunday. Admission at the gate is \$15 per car Monday through Thursday and \$20 per car Friday through Sunday. Purchase tickets [online](#).

#### **Holiday Bazaar**

**Nov. 30, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.**

**Arts Barn, 311 Kent Square Road**

Local artisans showcase handmade items just in time for holiday shopping. Crafts include greeting cards, leather accessories, jewelry, pottery, glass, textiles and gourd lanterns. Enjoy fresh baked pastries, cookies, cake pops, and individual cakes by a local chef while music in the background puts you in the holiday spirit. Admission is free.

#### **Main Street Farmers & Artist Holiday Market**

**Dec. 7, 14, 21, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

**Main Street Pavilion, 301 Main Street**

Shop unique holiday gifts including seasonal fresh produce, baked goods and pastries, preserves, honey, locally distilled beverages, dog treats, jewelry, and other handmade items. Admission is free.

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## **4 – 4 – 4/Holiday Happenings**

### **Jingle Jubilee & Tree Lighting**

**Dec. 7, 6 – 7:45 p.m.**

**City Hall Concert Pavilion, 31 S. Summit Avenue**

Welcome the holidays with a traditional tree lighting ceremony, holiday music and a special visit from Santa at Jingle Jubilee. Be sure to bring your camera to capture memorable holiday photos with costumed characters and in a fun photo booth that includes dress-up accessories and props. Festive giveaways, holiday card signing for our troops, and a magnificent tree lighting ceremony create a delightful holiday mood. Admission is free.

### **A Morning with Santa**

**Dec. 14, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Casey Community Center, 810 S. Frederick Avenue**

Santa Claus is coming to town! Visit with Santa, drink hot cocoa, enjoy cookies by the fireplace, and more. This is the perfect opportunity to take some great pictures of your little ones with Santa Claus himself. Please bring your own camera for photos. Admission is \$12 for children, \$6 for adults. Purchase tickets [online](#).

### **Swim with Santa**

**Dec. 15, 1 – 2 p.m. Swim with Santa, 2 – 3 p.m. Holiday Crafts**

**Gaithersburg Aquatic Center, 2 Teachers Way**

Grab your wish list for a unique chance to swim with the big man himself at the Gaithersburg Aquatic Center (bring your own camera). Children ages 2 – 12 can join the fun. Swimsuits are required for anyone entering the water. Parents of children ages 4 – 9 are required to be on the pool deck. Those with children under 4 must join them in the water. Swim with Santa from 1 to 2 p.m. Crafts with Santa's elves, plus hot cocoa & candy canes from 2 to 3 p.m. Admission is \$4 advance, \$5 at the door. Purchase tickets [online](#).

### **All Aboard with Santa**

**Dec. 15, 4 – 6:30 p.m.**

**Gaithersburg Community Museum, 9 S. South Summit Avenue**

Train enthusiasts will enjoy this railroad themed visit with Santa. Enjoy fresh baked cookies and hot chocolate in the 1884 RR Station. Follow the elves to Santa and other activities at this magical holiday event. Admission is \$12 per child, \$6 adults. Purchase tickets online [here](#).

### **A Night of Elf Happy Hour & Movie**

**Dec. 20, 6 p.m. Happy Hour, 7:30 p.m. Movie**

**Casey Community Center, 810 S. Frederick Avenue**

Spend an evening with Buddy as we celebrate all things Elf. Come dressed for an Ugly Sweater Contest and get on the "naughty list" by coming early for Holiday Happy Hour, movie trivia and other Elf antics. Brought to you by Streamside Apartments. Admission is \$2, cash bar available. Must be 21+ to purchase beer and wine. Purchase tickets [online](#).

### **Tasty Books: Hanukkah Cookies with Sprinkles**

**Dec. 22, 10:30 a.m.**

**Casey Community Center, 810 S. Frederick Avenue**

Journey with Sara as she discovers the importance of giving and kindness during the Hanukkah season. This story comes to life as it is read aloud and then explored with a hands-on craft and snack making. Adult supervision required. Admission is \$5. Space is limited; advanced registration suggested. Purchase tickets [online](#).